

May 14, 2001

HES 99.0350U1C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Lance E. Brothers et al.)

Serial No.: ~~09/522,424~~ 09/854,857)

Filed: March 9, 2000)

For: CEMENTING IN DEEP)
WATER OFFSHORE WELLS)

Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the specification as follows:

In the Specification:

Please insert the following on page 1 after the title:

Cross-References to Related Application

This application is a Continuation of Application
Serial No. 09/522,424 filed on March 9, 2000.

Please amend page 1, paragraph 1 thereof, to read as follows:

(amended) The present invention relates to improved methods and compositions for cementing casing strings in well bores, and more particularly, to methods and compositions for cementing conductor or surface casing strings in deep water offshore wells.